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Greetings Jeremy Grimes

Monday, June 24, 2019

POLICING & POLICY

Austin, Texas Police Considering Pulling Out Of Federal Task Forces Over Body Cam Issue

The Austin (TX) American Statesman (6/21, Huber, Subscription Publication) reports, "The Austin Police Department is one of several from across the country that's considering pulling out of federal task forces because the feds' objections to officers wearing body cameras." According to the American Statesman, "Last month, the Atlanta Police Department was the first department to withdraw because of this issue, following a deadly raid in which an officer working on an FBI fugitive task force shot and killed a wanted but unarmed man." The American Statesman adds, "Now, several other departments are considering following Atlanta's lead, including Austin police, who have been in discussions with federal authorities for a year trying to change the policy, Austin Police Chief Brian Manley told the American-Statesman. 'This boils down to common-sense use of current technology,' Manley said. 'The federal government put a large amount of funding behind body-worn camera programs around this country for a reason, because it's recognized as a best practice and best tool. So it just seems inconsistent that they wouldn't allow us to use them with federal programs.'"

Lawmaker Introduces Legislation Regulating Silencers Following Virginia Beach Shooting

The Washington Post (6/21, Portnoy) reports Rep. Jennifer Wexton (D-VA) introduced a measure on Friday which would permit "law enforcement officers to block people who they determine are a danger to themselves or others from buying gun silencers and machine guns." Wexton "filed the legislation in response to the May 31 shooting in Virginia Beach that killed 12 people." The perpetrator's utilization "of a silencer brought national attention to the devices."

Dealers Say Sales Of Bullets In California Have Increased In Lead Up To New Law Regarding Background Checks

The Hill (6/21, Pitofsky) reports that ABC News was informed by dealers that sales of bullets in California have risen "ahead of a new law that mandates background checks on all ammunition purchases," per The Hill. Residents of the state are going to be required, beginning July 1, to display "identification and undergo background checks to purchase new ammunition in the state."

New York City Changes Gun Restrictions In Attempt To Get Supreme Court To Reject Challenge

USA Today (6/21, Wolf) reports New York City on Friday disclosed that it modified "rules restricting where licensed guns can be taken outside the home, a move intended to prompt the Supreme Court to dismiss a challenge from gun rights groups." The alteration permits "gun owners to take their firearms to a home, business or shooting range outside city limits." Up to this point, "the city had limited those with possession licenses to seven shooting ranges inside city limits."

Denver Police Urge Caution After Two Fatal Motorcycle Crashes In One Week

The Denver Post (6/21, Mitchell) reports, "Denver police are urging motorists and motorcyclists to be cautious after two

people were killed and a third person seriously injured in accidents during a single week. 'Be aware there are more motorcycles on the road this time of year and they are harder to see than cars,' Denver police Lt. Robert Rock said in a Friday news release." Rock "also urged drivers not to drink and drive, not to drive distracted and be on the lookout for motorcycles when making left turns in front of oncoming traffic."

Michigan First-Responder Radio Network Has 100,000 Participants

The AP (6/22) reports, "Michigan officials say more than 100,000 radios are connected with a statewide public safety communications network." According to the AP, "The network operated by the Department of Technology, Management and Budget provides first responders such as police and firefighters with reliable communications across Michigan's 83 counties." The AP adds, "Nearly 1,900 local, tribal, state and federal participants are wired into the system." Officials "say 29 mobile and 35 portable radio models are approved for use on the network, enabling local agencies options to choose a device that best suits their needs." Michigan "began investing in infrastructure for the network in the mid-1990s."

Women's Leadership Institute in Michigan

IACP's one-week Women's Leadership Institute (WLI) course for female leaders and those developing female leaders is coming to Detroit, Michigan in August! WLI is focused on teaching participants evidence-informed leadership theories to help them inspire followers, lead groups, and achieve organizational goals—all in the context of better understanding the unique challenges women face in the workplace. The course will take place in Detroit, MI, August 4-9, 2019. Learn more and register. Contact **LeadershipServices@theiacp.org** with any questions.

Connect with the IACP online: **IACP Event Calendar:**

CRIME & DRUGS

Longtime DC Summer Basketball League Facing Uncertain Future Amid Recent Gun Violence

The Washington Post (6/22, Pell) reports that the Goodman League, "an outdoor summer basketball league in Southeast Washington," has been an important feature "in the Washington area" for a long time, though "with its home court in the heart of a neighborhood grappling with gentrification and recent violence, this year's event came with heightened concerns." The league is, for the time being, persevering, supported "by a community hopeful for its continuance but uncertain about its future." Following a number of shootings in DC over Memorial Day weekend, "[league commissioner Miles] Rawls posted a message on his Facebook page saying he was unsure whether the league could continue beyond this year."

WPost Analysis: Murders In Prince George's County Highlight "Lack In Resources" For Transgender Women

A Washington Post (6/22, Schmidt) analysis discusses the murder of two transgender women in Prince George's County. According to the Post, Washington, DC, "is known for its large LGBTQ community and the wide array of resources available to them, from health care to housing to employment support." With regard to Prince George's County, however, "advocacy groups focused on LGBTQ issues are few and far between, community members say." In contrast to DC, "which has an office within city government dedicated to LGBTQ affairs, Prince George's has none." According to the Post, the aforementioned murders "underscore a lack in resources that helps keep transgender women from finding housing, employment and stability."

Three Police Dogs From One New Jersey County Help Sniff Out Huge Cocaine Bust In Philadelphia

The Times of Trenton (NJ) (6/3, Shea) reports, "The amount of cocaine seized earlier this week at a Philadelphia port is staggering by any measure: 17.5 tons (35,000 pounds) in seven shipping containers packaged in 15,582 bricks. It has a street value of about $1.1 billion, federal authorities said Friday." The Times adds, "And three K-9 dogs from Mercer County were part of it, working Monday and some of Tuesday assisting the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in searching the Liberian-flagged container ship and its cargo. The agencies arrested six suspects." According to the Times, "When federal officials on Friday showed off the record haul – the largest cocaine seizure in CBP history – officers Joe Angarone, Brittney Fornarotto and Scott Kivet were there with their K-9 partners, Bela, Quori and Jax, respectively, Kivet said," and "the Mercer trio joined three other K-9s from the Philadelphia metro area in doing searches."

Human Trafficking Enforcement Operation In Results In 22 Arrests

The My News LA (CA) (6/21) reported 18 men and four women were arrested last week in Compton and Lynwood during a human trafficking task force operation. The article reported, "All the men arrested allegedly solicited undercover sheriff's deputies for various sex acts, according to Deputy Morgan Arteaga of the Sheriff's Information Bureau." Meanwhile, "Three of the women were arrested on suspicion of loitering for the purposes of prostitution" and "one woman was arrested on suspicion of solicitation of prostitution after allegedly soliciting sex for money from an undercover sheriff's detective, Arteaga said." The article added that "The operation by the Los Angeles Regional Human Trafficking Taskforce included personnel from the FBI, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, the Department of Children and Family Services, Probation Department, Los Angeles Unified School Police, Homeland Security Investigations, Saving Innocence, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking and state parole agents."

OFFICER SAFETY & WELLNESS

St. Johns, Arizona Officers Join One Mind Campaign

The White Mountain (AZ) Independent (6/21, Leiby) reports from St. Johns, Arizona, "Local police officers recently completed a course to help them work with those suffering from mental illness" that "was part of the One Mind Campaign endorsed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police." St. Johns Police Chief Lance Spivey "said the training is something that every police agency can benefit from and he has seen for himself how the training has helped officers better handle mental illness situations." Spivey "said that by completing the One Mind Pledge, his department implemented a partnership with a local mental health organization," and "they also developed and implemented a policy to address officers' interactions with people they come into contact with who are affected by mental illness."

TECHNOLOGY

Bill Would Impose Moratorium On Use Of Facial Recognition Technology In Massachusetts

The AP (6/22, Leblanc) reports from Boston, "Legislation that would hit pause on the use of facial recognition technology by police and other public agencies is gaining steam on Beacon Hill, as privacy and civil rights advocates say the technology is proliferating with little regulation and despite concerns about its reliability." According to the AP, "The bill's Senate sponsor, Democratic Sen. Cynthia Creem, said a moratorium is needed in part because the pace of technology is too fast for the law and the public to keep up and understand its implications." The bill "would make it illegal for any government official 'to acquire, possess, access, or use any biometric surveillance system, or acquire, possess, access, or use information derived from a biometric surveillance system operated by another entity.'"

Suffolk County, New York Officials Say New Program Will Let Officers See Inside Schools

Newsday (NY) (6/21, Tyrrell) reports, "Suffolk County police will be able to access schools' existing security camera systems in case of an emergency in some districts this fall, County Executive Steve Bellone announced Friday." According to Newsday, "The S.H.A.R.E. initiative – Sharing to Help Access Remote Entry – is designed so that school districts can connect their camera systems directly to the Suffolk County Police Department." Police "then would receive real-time video camera feeds, maps and images from schools, allowing them to watch and track where an active shooter or other intruder is in a school." Officers "could be directed toward specific entry points and locations in a school building, officials said," and "would be able to share information with other first responders and be better equipped to coordinate rescue efforts." Newsday adds, "Timing is critical in such an emergency, Bellone noted during a news conference at the West Babylon school district's administrative building."

GLOBAL SECURITY

FBI Official Warns Of Foreign Actors Trying To "Sow Discord" in Wake Of Mass Shootings

ABC News (6/21, Barr) reports, "Houses of worship remain a vulnerable target for attacks and foreign entities could be looking to 'sow discord' using the internet, an FBI official warned at a security event with law enforcement officials and faith leaders this week." According to ABC News, "The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, urged faith leaders to have a share information with U.S. authorities and to have a 'strategic perspective' in thinking about security. 'You need to be thinking about this for the next six months. You need to be thinking about this for the next year. What are the consequences of going to conflict with Iran and Hezbollah, those actors of interest here,' the official said. 'You need to be thinking about that right now,' the official said."

FRIDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- **Texas "Porch Pirates" Could Be Jailed After New Bill Takes Effect In September**

- **Milwaukee, Wisconsin Commission Tightens Policy On Police Use Of Force**
- **UK Police Arrest Gang Who Stole Heavy Machinery In Cash Machine "Ram-Raid" Spree**
- **Police Service Of Northern Ireland Opens Cyber Crime Facility**

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International Association of Chiefs of Police | 44 Canal Center Plaza Suite 200 | Alexandria, VA 22314

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